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THE COLLECTS OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND,

IMITATED IN VERSE;

TO WHICH IS SUBJOINED,

THE HAPPY MAN.

By JOHN RUSHER, Charlbury, Oxon.

OXFORD:

PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR;

And sold by W. JACKSON, Oxford; Messrs. ROBINSONS, Paternoster-Row, London; Mr. W. RUSHER, Banbury; the Author, Charlbury; and all Booksellers.

M. DCC. XC.

D.

I TRUST, the truly pious and devout Members of the Church will not think this little Work beneath their notice; and am encouraged by ſeveral eminent Schoolmaſters, who have ſeen it in manuſcript, to hope that it will be found of infinite ſervice in Sunday and other Schools, where (as rhime is pleaſing, eſpecially to young perſons, and ſuch a powerful and neceſſary aſſiſtant to the memory) one of theſe Collects may be every Week learned and retained, by the moſt indigent capacity.

WHAT heavenly fruit may be expected from thus planting the fertile ſoil of the infant mind with comprehenſive Prayer! which, if watered with the Divine Bleſſing, will continually grow, take deep root, and can never be eradicated; but even, when lopped by the broad axe of Death, will break out more abundantly in praiſe and adoration, and flouriſh through a glorious Eternity.

TO MY NUMEROUS SUBSCRIBERS,

TO THOSE ILLUSTRIOUS, LEARNED, AND WORTHY CHARACTERS,

WHO HAVE

Graciouſly condeſcended to patronize my humble Endeavours,

MY HEART RECURS

WITH EFFUSIONS OF GRATITUDE,

BESEECHING

ALMIGHTY GOD, whoſe providential worth
Doth govern all things, both in heav'n and earth,
To bleſs them more and more, and give them grace
To uſe His gifts to His eternal praiſe.

JOHN RUSHER.

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The Firſt Sunday in Advent.

THE COLLECT.

LORD, we beſeech thee give us grace,
That we may caſt away
The works of darkneſs, and embrace
The goſpel light to day;

Now, in the time of life when we
Believe thy bleſſed Son
Came down in great humility
To put our nature on;

That in the great and awful day
When he ſhall come again,
Array'd in glorious majeſty
To judge the ſons of men,

We may to life immortal riſe,
And join the heav'nly hoſt,
Through Him who reigns above the ſkies
With Thee and Holy Ghoſt.

The Second Sunday in Advent.

THE COLLECT.

BLESSED LORD, who haſt caus'd holy ſcriptures of truth
To be written as precepts for age and for youth,
Grant that we may ſo hear, read, mark, learn, and digeſt
Their contents, and ſo treaſure them up in our breaſt,
That by patience and comfort deriv'd from thy word,
We may perfect our hope in CHRIST JESUS our LORD.

The Third Sunday in Advent.

THE COLLECT.

O LORD JESU CHRIST, who preceding thy birth
Didſt ſend a glad meſſenger to us on earth,
To make ready thy way in a wild barren land,
By proclaiming the kingdom of heaven at hand;
Grant that thoſe who now act as thy miniſters may
So likewiſe prepare and make ready thy way,
By turning the heart from it's favorite luſt,
And conducting the feet to the paths of the juſt;
That when thou ſhalt come to take judgment around
We may an acceptable people be found,
Who liveſt and reigneſt our Saviour and friend,
With the Father and Spirit one GOD without end.

The Fourth Sunday in Advent.

THE COLLECT.

O LORD ariſe, and come with power
Among thy feeble flock,
Be thou our ſtrength, our mighty tower,
And never failing rock;

Beneath the weight of ſin we bow,
We faulter in our pace,
We find our nature weak and ſlow
To try the chriſtian race.

Then gracious GOD renew our powers,
Enable us to run,
And let th' eternal prize be ours,
Thro' JESUS CHRIST thy Son.

CHRISTMAS-DAY.

THE COLLECT.

Gracious GOD, whoſe dear Son as at this time began
His pure life, the bleſt pattern and ranſom of man;
Grant, we pray thee, that we and the whole chriſtian race,
May become thy true ſons by adoption and grace;
And (being renew'd and ſuſtain'd by the Spirit)
May thro' his attonement thy kingdom inherit;
Who liveſt and reigneſt our heavenly friend,
With the ſame Son and Spirit, one GOD, without end.

Saint Stephen's Day.

THE COLLECT.

Grant, O LORD, in our croſſes and ſufferings here,
For thy truth it may not be conceal'd,
But the eyes of our faith may behold thee more clear,
'Till thy glory is fully reveal'd;

Being fill'd with thy Spirit incline us to love
And bleſs thoſe who ſhall treat us with guile;
The example of Stephen O make us approve,
And pray while they mock and revile:

To thee, bleſſed JESUS, who ever wilt ſtand
As a refuge for ſuffering Saints,
Our advocate plac'd at thy Father's right hand
To preſent all our pray'rs and complaints.

Saint John the Evangeliſt's Day.

THE COLLECT.

LORD, we beſeech thee, let thy heav'nly light
Shine on the church, conduct it ſafe and right;
And by the goſpel of thy bleſſed Son,
As written by the Evangeliſt Saint John,
Illuminate our minds; that age and youth
May walk together in the light of truth,
To light eternal, promis'd in thy word,
Thro' JESUS CHRIST, thy only Son, our Lord.

The First Sunday after the Epiphany.

THE COLLECT.

LORD, we beſeech thee, graciouſly to hear
The voice of ſinners turn'd to thee in prayer;
Illuminate our minds, and clearly ſhow
What we ought not, and what we ought to do;
That what thou haſt forbidden we may ſhun,
And follow thy commands thro' CHRIST, thy Son.

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany.

THE COLLECT.

Almighty GOD, eternal King,
Who ruleſt over ev'ry thing
In heav'n, and earth, and ſeas;
Attend for CHRIST our Saviour's ſake,
The fervent pray'rs which ſinners make,
And grant us endleſs peace.

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany.

THE COLLECT.

Almighty and eternal GOD,
Look down from thy ſupreme abode,
And be our guardian and defence,
'Till thou art pleas'd to call us hence
To an unmerited reward,
Thro' JESUS CHRIST, thy Son, our Lord.

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany.

THE COLLECT.

O God, thou know'ſt before we ſpeak,
That dangers are at hand,
And that our nature is ſo weak
We cannot them withſtand;

Then grant us thy peculiar care,
Thy gracious aid afford,
That all temptations we may bear
Thro' Jesus Christ, our Lord.

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany.

THE COLLECT.

LORD, keep thy church in ev'ry part,
Teach us with purity of heart
To worſhip in thy holy place,
And find the riches of thy grace
Apply'd by thy moſt holy word,
To heal our ſins thro' CHRIST, our Lord.

The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany.

THE COLLECT.

O GOD, whoſe bleſſed Son came down on earth,
That he the works of Satan might deſtroy,
And make us all by virtue of his birth
The ſons of GOD, and heirs of endleſs joy;

Enable us t' improve the preſent hour,
And purify ourſelves as he is pure;
That when he ſhall appear again with power
We may be happy with him evermore,

In his eternal kingdom, where with thee,
O FATHER, and with thee, O HOLY GHOST,
He reigns; the Three in One, and One in Three,
Amid the praiſes of the heav'nly hoſt.

Septuageſima Sunday.

THE COLLECT.

LORD, we beſeech thee, fav'rably to hear
The voice of ſinners turn'd to thee in pray'r;
That we who for our heinous crimes are griev'd,
May by thy gracious goodneſs be reliev'd;
And by repentance ſee our peace reſtor'd,
Thro' JESUS CHRIST, thy only Son, our Lord.

Sexageſima Sunday.

THE COLLECT.

O God, who know'ſt we put no truſt
In what ourſelves can do,
Repel the cruel and unjuſt,
And all our foes ſubdue;
That we may triumph in thy word
Thro' JESUS CHRIST, thy Son, our Lord.

Quinquageſima Sunday.

THE COLLECT.

LORD, who haſt taught that all our deeds on earth,
Diveſt of Charity are nothing worth;
Send down thy Spirit, fix our hopes above,
And fill our hearts with univerſal love,
The very bond of unity, of peace,
And every virtue in the chriſtian race;
Without which holy bias, thou haſt ſaid
Whoever lives, is notwithſtanding dead.
O heavenly FATHER, hear the pray'rs we make,
And grant them for thy Son, our SAVIOUR's ſake.

ASH-WEDNESDAY.

THE COLLECT.

O gracious GOD, who madeſt all,
And hateſt nothing thou haſt made,
Who heareſt ſinners, when they call
In faith and penitence for aid;

Create us new and contrite hearts,
That we who do our ſins confeſs,
Convicted in our inward parts
Of folly, ſin, and wretchedneſs;

May thro' the riches of thy grace
To perfect favor be reſtor'd;
And come to that eternal place
Prepar'd thro' JESUS CHRIST, our LORD.

The First Sunday in Lent.

THE COLLECT.

O LORD, who (as thy bleſſed word recites)
Didſt once faſt forty days, and forty nights,
Reſtrain our nature, ſuccour us within,
And give us grace and pow'r to faſt from ſin;
That leaving all idordinate deſires,
And doing what thy holy will requires,
We may be ſav'd according to thy word,
Thro' thy tranſcendent love, O bleſſed LORD;
Who, with the Father and the Holy Ghoſt,
One GOD, doſt reign amid the heav'nly hoſt.

The Second Sunday in Lent.

THE COLLECT.

Almighty God, who know'ſt our helpleſs ſtate,
Our num'rous foes, their ſtrength, and vile deceit;
Protect our outward and our inward parts
From ſin, the world, and Satan's evil darts;
Let no bad deeds our mortal frame controul,
Nor evil thoughts afflict th' immortal ſoul,
But give us cauſe to triumph in thy word,
Thro' Jesus Christ, thy only Son, our Lord.

The Third Sunday in Lent.

THE COLLECT.

Almighty God, receive our fervent pray'rs,
And when our foes beſet us unawares,
Or openly and terribly ariſe,
Be our defence againſt our enemies:

O hear, and grant us what we have implor'd,
Thro' Jesus Christ, thy only Son, our Lord.

The Fourth Sunday in Lent.

THE COLLECT.

O God, our hearts have daily ſwerv'd,
Our evil deeds have long deſerv'd
The threat'nings of thy word;
Yet give us grace to turn from ſin,
That we the promiſes may win,
Thro' Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Fifth Sunday in Lent.

THE COLLECT.

We beſeech thee, O God, to look graciouſly down,
Where the ſeeds of the glorious Goſpel are ſown,
And encourage the growth of thy word;
Let thy Spirit direct, rule, and govern the whole,
And preſerve us for ever in body and ſoul,
Thro' thy only Son Jesus our Lord.

The Sunday next before Eaſter.

THE COLLECT.

Almighty God, who of thy tender love,
Haſt ſent thy Son, our Saviour, from above,
To take our fleſh, and ſuffer death, that we
Might imitate his great humility;
Endue us all with patience and ſubjection,
And make us ſharers in his Reſurrection.

GOOD FRIDAY.

THE COLLECTS.

Almighty God, ſend down thy grace
On us, and all the chriſtian race;
Nor leave us deſtitute of aid,
For whom our Saviour was betray'd,
And given up to wicked men;
Was crucify'd, and roſe again;
And reigns with Thee, and Holy Ghoſt,
Ador'd by all the heav'nly hoſt.

GOOD FRIDAY.

O God, whoſe Spirit as a holy torch
Illuminates and ſanctifies thy church,
Hear us for all eſtates of men therein,
And keep us ſafe from falling into ſin;
That we, with thoſe who preach thy holy word,
May do thy will, thro' Jesus Christ our Lord.

GOOD FRIDAY.

O gracious GOD, who madeſt all,
And hateſt nothing thou haſt made,
Nor would'ſt have ſinners die, but call
To Thee, the living GOD, for aid;
Forgive the ſtubborn Jews and Greeks,
Turks, Infidels, and Hereticks;
Illuminate their inward parts;
Soften the hardneſs of their hearts;
Convince them of thy holy word;
And fetch them home, O bleſſed LORD,
As thy Apoſtle hath foretold;
" That all may be one flock, one fold,
Under one ſhepherd, JESUS CHRIST;"
To whom be glory in the high'ſt.

EASTER-EVE.

THE COLLECT.

Gracious God, grant that we who thro' faith in thy word
Are baptiz'd in the death of Christ Jesus our Lord,
May conquer our evil affection;
And be bury'd with him, and may paſs thro' the grave,
And gate of mortality, thence to receive
A joyful and ſure Reſurrection;
Thro' his merits who dy'd, and was bury'd, and roſe,
And gave us the victory over our foes.

EASTER-DAY.

THE COLLECT.

O God, who thro' thy only Son
Haſt ſet inſolvent ſinners free,
And open'd wide to ev'ry one
The gates of immortality;

Afford us thy eſpecial grace,
Quicken our minds with good deſires,
Teach us to love thy bleſſed ways,
And what thy holy will requires;

Let perfect love extinguiſh fear,
Thro' Faith in thy moſt holy word,
And lead us on in comfort here,
To endleſs bliſs, thro' Christ our Lord.

The First Sunday after Easter.

THE COLLECT.

Blessed FATHER, who (graciously pleas'd to evince
Thy tender regard in our lost situation)
Didst give thy Son JESUS to die for our sins,
And to rise from the dead for our justification;

Grant that hatred and malice, in aged and youth,
Being wholly cast off, and compleatly abhorr'd,
We may serve Thee in pureness of living and truth,
For the sake of thy only Son, JESUS, our LORD.

The Second Sunday after Eaſter.

THE COLLECT.

O merciful GOD, who haſt given thy Son,
As a ranſom and pattern for every one
Who ſincerely believe in his word;
Let us ſhare the kind offers his Goſpel diſplays,
And daily endeavour to walk in his ways,
Thro' the ſame, thy Son JESUS our LORD.

The Third Sunday after Eaſter.

THE COLLECT.

Gracious God, who doſt ſhow rich and poor, age and youth,
When in darkneſs and error, the light of thy truth,
Such beams of inſtruction afford,
That we who profeſs to believe in thy Son,
May follow that pure and immaculate one,
Thro' the ſame, thy Son JESUS our LORD.

The Fourth Sunday after Eaſter.

THE COLLECT.

O God, who alone haſt the power and ſkill
To reſtrain the unruly affections and will,
Enable us truly to love and deſire
Thy commands, and thy promiſes; and to retire
From the world, and the many vain things that ſurround,
To devotion and Thee, where true joys may be found.

The Fifth Sunday after Eaſter.

THE COLLECT.

O Almighty God, from whom
Every perfect gift doth come,
Grant that we and all our race,
By the comfort of thy grace,
May not only ſee, and know
What is good and right to do,
But may keep thy holy word,
Thro' thy only Son our Lord.

The ASCENSION-DAY.

THE COLLECT.

Grant, O LORD, that thy ſervants to whom thou haſt given
True faith in a SAVIOUR, his birth,
Life, death, reſurrection, aſcenſion to heaven,
And attonement for ſinners on earth,

May clearly the way to eternity ſee,
And joyfully thither aſcend,
Where the ſame, thy Son JESUS, now reigneth, with Thee,
And the Spirit, one GOD, without end.

The Sunday after the Aſcenſion-Day.

THE COLLECT.

O God, the King of Glory, who haſt given
Our Saviour an exalted place in heaven,
Send down thy Spirit, teach us to explore
The way to bliſs, where He is gone before,
And lives, and reigns with Thee and Holy Ghoſt,
Amid the praiſes of the heavenly hoſt.

WHIT-SUNDAY.

THE COLLECT.

O God, who didſt ſend thy good Spirit below
To teach and to comfort the faithful and true,
Send down the ſame Spirit to us, who deſire
To know and perform what thy precepts require;
Cauſe our hearts to rejoice in Christ Jesus thy Son,
And to publiſh what He for loſt ſinners hath done,
Who reigns with the Spirit and Thee, Three in One.

TRINITY SUNDAY.

THE COLLECT.

O gracious GOD, who faith to man haſt given
To own the wond'rous myſteries of heaven,
The glorious Three in One, and One in Three,
And in their boundleſs pow'r to worſhip Thee;
Keep us, we pray Thee, ſtedfaſt in this faith,
And be our guardian and defence till death.

The Firſt Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

O gracious God, the ſtrength of all,
Of rich, and poor, and great, and ſmall,
Who truſt in Thee for aid,
Look down in mercy, hear our prayers,
And keep us ſafe from all the ſnares
That are or ſhall be laid;

Our ſinful nature's weak and frail,
Fain would our enemies prevail,
And cauſe our hearts to bleed;
Lord, ſoften theirs, thou canſt with eaſe,
And teach us all thro' Christ to pleaſe
Thee both in will and deed.

The Second Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

O God, who haſt in mercy choſe
To ſucoour, help, and govern thoſe
Who know thy fear and growing love,
Send thy good Spirit from above,
And give us ſuch a lively ſenſe
Of thy endearing Providence,
That love to full perfection grown,
May baniſh fear, thro' Christ thy Son.

The Third Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

LOLD, we beſeech thee, lend a gracious ear
To us, whoſe hearts incline to thee in prayer;
Inſtruct, defend, and comfort us therein;
Pardon, and cleanſe us from the guilt of ſin;
And give us grace to keep thy holy word,
Thro' JESUS CHRIST, thy only Son, our Lord,

The Fourth Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

Bleſſed maker, ſupporter, and guardian of all,
The Author of every thing perfect and holy,
Hear the voice of thy ſervants who earneſtly call,
Forgive us our former tranſgreſſion and folly;

And be our perpetual ruler and guide,
That we may ſo paſs thro' this temporal ſcene
As to win the eternal, and ever reſide
Where Thyſelf, Son, and Spirit, one GOD, ever reign,

The Fifth Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

Grant, O LORD, we beſeech thee, thy heavenly love,
That the courſe of this world may ſo peaceably move
We may ſtir up each other to hearing thy word,
And performing thy will, thro' CHRIST JESUS our LORD.

The Sixth Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

O God, who haſt prepar'd for them that love
Thy holy name, ſuch glorious things above
As paſs our underſtanding to conceive;
Fill us with love, that we who do believe
May win the bleſſings promis'd in thy word,
Thro' Jesus Christ, thy only Son, our Lord.

The Seventh Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

LORD of power and might, by our faith underſtood
As the author and giver of all that is good,
O teach us the love of thy word;
Increaſe true religion and goodneſs within,
And of thy great mercy reſtrain us from ſin,
Thro' thy only Son JESUS our LORD.

The Eighth Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

Almighty GOD, whoſe providential worth
Doth govern all things both in heav'n and earth,
Bow down thy gracious ear we humbly pray,
And, keeping ev'ry hurtful thing away,
Give us the good things promis'd in thy word,
Thro' JESUS CHRIST, thy only Son, our LORD.

The Ninth Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

Grant us, LORD, we beſeech thee, the Spirit to know
And to practiſe the thing that is right;
That we all may be able, and willing to do,
What is lawful and good in thy ſight;
And may finally win an eternal reward,
For the merits and ſake of CHRIST JESUS our LORD.

The Tenth Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

O moſt merciful GOD, we beſeech thee to hear
Our imperfect addreſſes, aſſiſt us in prayer
To order and frame our petitions aright,
And to aſk only that which is good in thy ſight,
That we may not fall ſhort of an endleſs reward,
For the merits and ſake of CHRIST JESUS our LORD.

The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

O God, who ever ſince the world began
Haſt been exceeding merciful to man,
Afford us ſuch a meaſure of thy grace
That we with joy may run the chriſtian race;
And win the glorious prize for which we run,
Eternal bliſs, thro' Jesus Christ thy Son.

The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

O gracious GOD, who ſtandeſt day by day
Readier to hear than ſinners are to pray,
And infinitely more inclin'd to ſerve
Than we deſire, or do, or can deſerve;
Send down thy Holy Spirit to our aid;
Forgive us all whereof we are afraid;
And give us ev'ry bleſſing, and reward
We aſk or need, thro' JESUS CHRIST our LORD.

The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

Almighty and eternal GOD, of whom
The comforts of thy faithful people come,
And ſtrength to act according to thy will,
Teach us thy holy ſtatutes to fulfil;
And give us that exceeding great reward,
Which thou haſt promis'd, thro' thy SON our LORD.

The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

O LORD GOD Almighty, ſend down an increaſe
Of faith, hope, and charity, never to ceaſe;
And, that we may win an eternal reward,
Make us love thy commands, thro' CHRIST JESUS our LORD.

The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

O gracious God, look down from heav'n above,
And keep thy church with thy perpetual love;
Our ſtrength is weak, our reſolution frail,
But thy great pow'r and mercy never fail;
Then take us under thy eſpecial care,
Support and keep us ſafe from ev'ry ſnare,
And lead us on by thy moſt holy word
To endleſs bliſs, thro' JESUS CHRIST our LORD.

The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

LORD, we beſeech thee, let thy Spirit ſearch,
Correct, amend, and ſanctify thy church;
And guide us ſafe by thy unerring word,
Thro' JESUS CHRIST, thy only SON, our LORD.

The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

O LORD, we pray thee, let thy fovereign grace
Conduct and aid us in the chriſtian race;
And teach us to obey thy holy word,
Thro' JESUS CHRIST, thy only SON, our LORD.

The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

LORD, we beſeech thee, grant thy people grace
To ſee the error of their wicked ways;
To ſhun their darling ſins, to flee from evil,
The allurements of the world, the fleſh, and devil;
And with pure hearts and minds to follow thee,
Thro' CHRIST thy SON, to all eternity.

The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

O God, in whoſe moſt holy ſight
We cannot think, or do aright;
Send thy good Spirit down, impart
Divine ideas to the heart,
And guide our actions by thy word,
Thro' Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord.

The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

O moſt merciful GOD, our immutable friend,
On thy infinite goodneſs and aid we depend,
That preſerv'd and ſupported in body and mind,
And to public and private devotion inclin'd,
We may know and accompliſh what thou would'ſt have done,
For the merits and ſake of CHRIST JESUS thy Son.

The Twenty-firſt Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

LORD, bleſs the faithful, make their faith increaſe,
Aſſure their hearts of pardon, and of peace;
That bleſt with pure ſerenity of mind,
And more and more to holineſs inclin'd,
We may at length obtain that great reward,
Which thou haſt promis'd, thro' thy SON our LORD.

The Twenty-ſecond Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

LORD, we beſeech thee, conſtantly to keep
Thy faithful flock, collect the ſcatter'd ſheep,
Reclaim the wand'rers, ſet ſtray'd captives free,
And fetch home all, O bleſſed LORD, to Thee;
To hear, obey, and love thy holy word,
Till ripe for bliſs, thro' JESUS CHRIST our LORD.

The Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

O God, our refuge, ſtrength, and truſt,
The fount of all that's good and juſt,
Be pleas'd to lend a gracious ear
To our devout and hearty prayer;
Incline us, morning, noon, and night,
To pray to thee, and pray aright;
That ſo we may not aſk in vain,
But thro' thy ſov'reign grace obtain
The bleſſings promis'd in thy word,
Thro' Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord.

The Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

O God, who know'ſt our weak and vain pretences,
Abſolve us from our manifold offences;
That being looſen'd from the bands of ſin
We may a life of holineſs begin:
O heavenly Father, hear the pray'rs we make,
And grant them for thy Son, our Saviour's ſake.

The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity.

THE COLLECT.

Stir up, we beſeech thee, O merciful GOD,
The wills of the faithful, encourage the bud
To dilate and expand, cauſe the branches to ſhoot,
And the bloſſoms to bring forth abundance of fruit;
Such fruit as thou'rt pleas'd to accept and reward,
For the ſake of thy only Son JESUS our LORD.

Saint Andrew's Day.

THE COLLECT.

O God, who mad'ſt Saint Andrew's heart rejoice
To hear, and to obey his Saviour's voice;
Enable all who hear thy holy word
To do thy will, thro' Jesus Christ our Lord.

Saint Thomas the Apoſtle.

THE COLLECT.

O God, who as the holy Goſpel ſaith,
(For confirmation of the chriſtian faith)
Didſt let Saint Thomas for a while go on
To doubt the Reſurrection of thy Son;
Let unbelief be far from us remov'd,
That ſo our faith may never be reprov'd:
Hear us, O heavenly Father, thro' the ſame,
We come in Christ thy Son, our Saviour's name;
To whom, with Thee and Holy Ghoſt, be pure
And holy worſhip, now and evermore.

The Converſion of Saint Paul.

THE COLLECT.

O God, who by the preaching of Saint Paul
Haſt caus'd the Goſpel light to ſhine on all,
Shine in our hearts, and let us often find
His wonderful Converſion in our mind;
Teach us to praiſe the wonders thou haſt wrought,
By following the doctrine he has taught;
Which leads to an exceeding great reward,
Thro' Jesus Christ, thy only Son, our Lord.

The Preſentation of CHRIST in the Temple;

Or, Purification of St. MARY the VIRGIN.

THE COLLECT.

Almighty GOD, who hadſt thy only Son
Brought to the Temple, when a little one,
And introduc'd according to thy word;
Renew, and ſanctify our inward parts,
And graciouſly accept our contrite hearts,
Thro' JESUS CHRIST, thy only SON, our LORD.

Saint Matthias's Day.

THE COLLECT.

O LORD GOD Almighty, who into the place
Of Judas, the traitor, didſt chuſe
Thy ſervant Matthias, and gaveſt him grace
The Apoſtleſhip duly to uſe.

So grant that thy church being alway preſerv'd
From Apoſtles who err from thy word,
May be order'd, and govern'd, and faithfully ſerv'd
By true Paſtors, thro' JESUS our LORD.

The Annunciation of the Bleſſed Virgin Mary.

THE COLLECT.

LORD, ſend thy grace, our hearts renew,
Refreſh us with thy heavenly dew;
That as an angel hath made known
The Incarnation of thy Son,
So let thy Spirit ſhew us plain;
He's born, and dead, and roſe again;
And lives, and reigns with Thee above,
To crown us with his wond'rous love.

Saint Mark's Day.

THE COLLECT.

O God, endue us with a heavenly ſpark
Of that pure fire which ſhone in holy Mark;
That, not like children running here and there,
And won by each new doctrine that we hear,
We may be well eſtabliſhed in thy word,
Thro' Jesus Christ, thy only Son, our Lord.

Saint Phillip and Saint James's Day.

THE COLLECT.

Almighty GOD, who offers thoſe that ſtrive,
To know Thee truly, everlaſting life;
Reveal Him whom the word of truth doth call,
" The way, the truth, the life, the all in all;"
That we, thy ſervants, who have heard the names
Of thoſe good men, Saint Philip and Saint James,
May follow them by thy moſt holy word,
To endleſs bliſs, thro' JESUS CHRIST our LORD.

Saint Barnabas the Apoſtle.

THE COLLECT.

Almighty and eternal GOD, of whom
Each truly good and perfect gift doth come,
Who gave th' Apoſtle Barnabas t' inherit
A liberal portion of thy Holy Spirit,
Pour down on us thy gifts, and give us grace
To uſe them all to thy eternal praiſe.

Saint John Baptiſt.

THE COLLECT.

Almighty GOD, who by a wond'rous birth
Didſt ſend John Baptiſt graciouſly on earth,
To preach Repentance, and prepare the way
For CHRIST the SAVIOUR, pardon our delay;
Grant us Repentance, make us ceaſe from ſtrife,
And follow the example of his life,
By turning others to thy holy word,
Thro' JESUS CHRIST, thy only SON, our LORD.

Saint Peter's Day.

THE COLLECT.

Almighty God, who by thy bleſſed Son
Didſt make thy kindneſs to Saint Peter known,
Didſt build his faith on that eternal rock,
And give him earneſt charge to feed thy flock,
Bleſs every one ordain'd to preach thy word,
And thoſe who hear them, thro' thy Son our Lord.

Saint James the Apoſtle.

THE COLLECT.

Grant, O GOD, as Saint James the Apoſtle was glad
To leave his dear father, and all that he had,
And accompany CHRIST at a word;
So, forſaking all worldly and carnal affections
We may readily follow thy holy directions,
Thro' the ſame, thy SON, JESUS our LORD.

Saint Bartholomew the Apoſtle.

THE COLLECT.

O merciful GOD, who (to heighten our praiſe)
Didſt give thine Apoſtle Bartholomew grace
To believe, and to publiſh thy word;
Enable thy church to believe in the ſame,
And to publiſh, and love, and rejoice in the name
Of thy only Son JESUS our LORD.

Saint Matthew the Apoſtle.

THE COLLECT.

Almighty GOD, who by thy bleſſed Son
Didſt call Saint Matthew from a wealthy place,
To preach and make the glorious Goſpel known,
Afford us ſuch a meaſure of thy grace,
That leaving all inordinate deſires,
And love of wealth repugnant to thy word,
We may do what thy holy will requires,
Thro' JESUS CHRIST, thy only SON, our LORD.

Saint Michael and All Angels.

THE COLLECT.

O merciful God, whom the Angels obey,
And art worſhip'd by men in a more humble way,
Send down thy good Angels to watch at our birth,
To ſuccour, direct, and defend us on earth,
And to ſhow us the way to an endleſs reward,
For the ſake of thy only Son JESUS our LORD.

Saint Luke the Evangeliſt.

THE COLLECT.

O God, who calledſt the phyſician Luke,
(Whoſe praiſe is mention'd in thy holy book
For making the diſtemper'd body whole,)
And mad'ſt him a phyſician of the ſoul;
Give us the wholeſome med'cines he reveal'd,
And let our ſin-diſorder'd ſouls be heal'd.

Saint Simon and Saint Jude.

THE COLLECT.

LORD, who hast built thy holy church upon
The Prophets and Apostles, with thy Son
Our Saviour CHRIST, the head and corner stone;
Entreat us not according to our merit,
But build us up, in unity of Spirit
An holy Temple, fit for Thee t' inherit.

All Saints Day.

THE COLLECT.

O God, who haſt united us in One,
In the myſterious body of thy Son;
Teach us, like former Saints, to ceaſe from ſtrife,
To follow peace and holineſs of life,
And finally to win that great reward
Which thou haſt promis'd thro' thy Son our Lord.

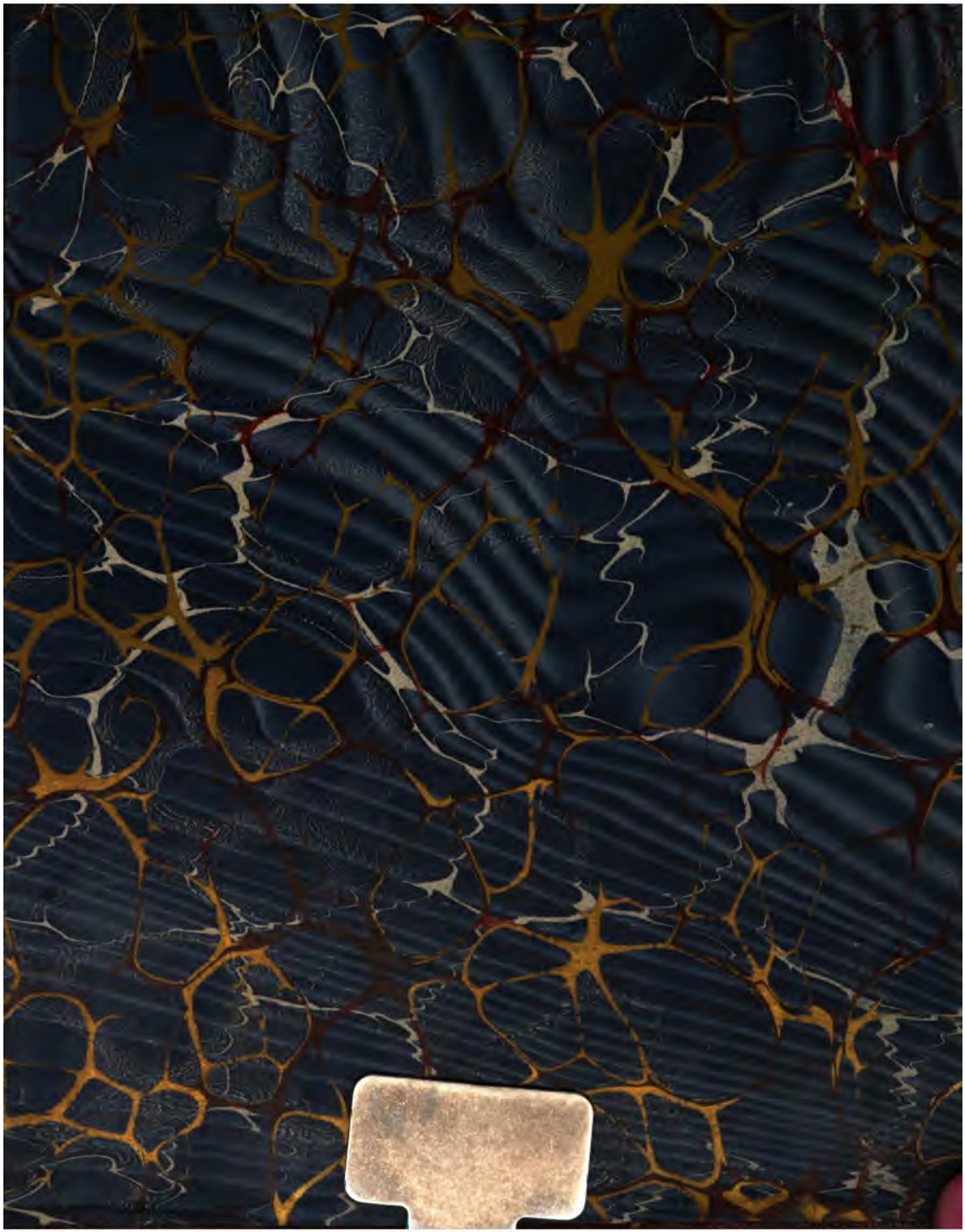
The End of the Collects.

THE HAPPY MAN,

Which has already appeared in Print,

AND BEEN HONOURED WITH THE

Approbation of many learned and diſtinguiſhed Perſons,

IS DEFINED TO BE

THE Man who keeps the golden mien,
Who calmly ſteers his bark between
The rocks of hope, and gulphs of fear,
Makes Piety his only care;
And whoſe unerring conſcience ſaith
He ſhall be happier after death.